

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/829,403

Examiner

Vincent Q. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

TARTAGNI, MARCO

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to TD and response 6/30/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-41.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/30/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

VINCENT Q. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Vincent Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

Please submit all of the Foreign Patent Documents and Non-Patent Literature Documents for them to be considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 14-41 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest an integrated sensor device having a second capacitor plate positioned adjacent the object to form a second capacitance between the second plate and the object, the second plate being coplanar with the first plate, and an amplifier having the input being connected to the first plate and connectable to a voltage source, and the output being connected to the second plate to form a negative feedback branch that includes the first and second capacitor plates and the object, as recited in the independent claim 14; a second capacitor plate positioned adjacent the object to form a second capacitance between the second plate and the object, and an amplifier having an input and an output, the input being connected to the voltage source and the first plate and the output being connected to the second plate to form a negative feedback branch that includes the first and second capacitances, as recited in the independent claim 20; a second plate positioned in proximity to the object to form a second capacitance between the second plate and the object, the second plate being coplanar with the first plate, and an amplifier having an

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input and an output, the input being connected to the input voltage source and to the first plate and the output being connected to the second plate to form a negative feedback branch that includes the first and second capacitances to establish an output voltage at the amplifier output in response to the step voltage of the input voltage source, the output voltage being proportional to a distance between the first plate and the object, as recited in the independent claim 28; means for forming a second capacitance between a second capacitor plate and the object, means for forming a negative feedback branch with the means for amplifying an input signal that includes the first and second capacitances; means for applying an electric charge variation to the means for receiving an input signal; and means for detecting a voltage at the means for outputting the amplified input signal, as recited in the independent claim 40, and in combination of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



July 18, 2005

Vincent Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2858

VINCENT Q. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER